



GOVERNOR ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER

## PROCLAMATION

Over the last decade, Californians have experienced the ravages wrought by nature, with 42 major emergencies or natural disasters. These tragedies, including fires, earthquakes and floods, have affected California's natural beauty, devastated homes, land and businesses, and have taken hundreds of lives.

Injury and loss of life is avoidable when individuals take responsibility for preparing their families and their communities. Local governments can also take preventive steps to mitigate the hazards that damage land and property and greatly reduce the economic burden following disasters. However, the Office of Emergency Services estimates that only 30 percent of Californians are prepared for disaster.

During Disaster Preparedness Month, we call on all Californians to equip themselves to care for their families in the unfortunate instance of a disaster. This year's theme is, "Be Smart, Be Responsible, and Be Prepared." Together, we can help build disaster-resistant communities throughout our state.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER**, Governor of the State of California, do hereby proclaim May as "Disaster Preparedness Month."

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have here unto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 21<sup>st</sup> day of April 2005.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Arnold Schwarzenegger".

Arnold Schwarzenegger  
GOVERNOR OF CALIFORNIA

Attest:

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Bruce McPherson".

Bruce McPherson  
SECRETARY OF STATE

